

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ISO-00 IO-13
ACDA-07 EURE-00 /078 W
-----141414Z 042357 /43

P R 141329Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4696
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00764

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GW, MBFR, XH
SUBJECT: FRG EASTERN POLICY STALLED MOMENTARILY

REFS: (A) BONN 19075 (76); (B) BONN 19822 (76)
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BEGIN SUMMARY: THE WORKING LEVEL IN THE FONOFF STATES
THAT KEY DECISIONS ON EASTERN POLICY HAVE NOT YET BEEN
MADE BY CHANCELLOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER. END SUMMARY

1. AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE FRG SUSPENDED
FURTHER STEPS IN ITS EASTERN POLICY TOWARD THE END OF

LAST YEAR PENDING CONCLUSION OF COALITION NEGOTIATIONS AND DELIVERY OF THE GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON DECEMBER 16, 1976. THE WORKING LEVEL OF THE FONOFF HAS CONFIRMED TO US THAT THIS SITUATION CONTINUES. OUR SOURCES STATE FURTHER THAT BOTH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ARE SO PREOCCUPIED WITH DOMESTIC AFFAIRS THAT FONOFF PAPERS ARE PILING UP ON THEIR DESKS.

2. SPECIFICALLY, THE SOVIET DESK HAS SUBMITTED TO GENSCHER AN OPTIONS PAPER ON HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE BREZHNEV VISIT. ONE PROPOSED OPTION IS TO HAVE ANOTHER NEGOTIATING ROUND ON THE WORKING LEVEL ON THE THREE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. ANOTHER OPTION IS TO PROPOSE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS, WHICH WOULD FOCUS ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE VISIT. GENSCHER HAS NOT REACTED TO THIS PAPER. OUR SOURCES NOTE, HOWEVER, GENSCHER'S TELEVISION INTERVIEW OF JANUARY 2, IN WHICH HE STATED THAT THE VISIT IN ITSELF HAS VALUE AND SHOULD NOT BE OVERBURDENED WITH GREAT EXPECTATIONS. HE ADDED THAT THE FRG IS NOT PREPARED TO SIGN THE THREE AGREEMENTS UNLESS BERLIN IS FULLY INCLUDED IN THEM. IN THE ABSENCE OF GUIDANCE FROM GENSCHER, ALL WORK ON THE AGREEMENTS HAS STOPPED. NO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT, EXCEPT FOR ONE INFORMAL DISCUSSION BETWEEN A SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICER AND THE MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY RELATING TO THE SCIENTIFIC/TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT.

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3. THE WORKING LEVEL HAS RECEIVED NO INDICATION FROM EITHER GENSCHER OR SCHMIDT AS TO THE TIMING OF THE VISIT. OUR SOURCES ALSO TELL US THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IS NOT PRESSING THEM FOR FIRM DATES FOR THE VISIT.

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USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00764

4. ON EASTERN EUROPE, THE FONOFF HAS SUBMITTED A
PROPOSAL TO THE CHANCELLERY FOR A SCHEDULE OF HIGH
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LEVEL VISITS. THIS PROPOSAL POINTS OUT THAT SCHMIDT
HAS ACCEPTED INVITATIONS TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA, ROMANIA,
AND POLAND, AND THAT IT IS POLITICALLY DESIRABLE THAT
THE VISITS TAKE PLACE IN 1977. THE FONOFF RECOMMENDS
FURTHER THAT THE KADAR AND HUSAK VISITS TO THE FRG BE
SCHEDULED FOR 1977. IT RECOMMENDS THAT THESE TWO
VISITS BE SCHEDULED FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE YEAR IN
ORDER TO SEPARATE THEM AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FROM THE
BREZHNEV VISIT. HOWEVER, THE PROPOSAL LEFT SOME LEEWAY
FOR KADAR TO COME EARLIER IN CASE THE BREZHNEV VISIT IS
NOT SCHEDULED SOONER.

5. OUR SOURCES ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT SCHMIDT WILL CARRY OUT THIS FULL SCHEDULE OF VISITS. THEY WOULD LIKE HIM TO DO AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, AND ARE SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATED OVER THE LACK OF RESPONSE FROM THE CHANCELLERY. UNTIL SCHMIDT MAKES HIS DECISIONS, GENSCHER CANNOT DECIDE HIS OWN TRAVELING SCHEDULE.

6. COMMENT: THE LACK OF GUIDANCE TO THE WORKING LEVEL OF THE FONOFF COULD ALSO INDICATE THAT THE CHANCELLOR IS USING OTHER CHANNELS (BAHR) TO PREPARE FOR BREZHNEV'S VISIT. IT APPEARS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT FOR THE MOMENT DOMESTIC PRIORITIES ARE DEFINITELY HIGHER AND THAT LITTLE IS BEING DONE ON EASTERN POLICY IN ANY CHANNEL. MOREOVER, THERE ARE DISAGREEMENTS WITHIN THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT AS TO WHERE TO GO FROM HERE, AND THE SENIOR LEVELS ARE NOT REALLY CERTAIN YET WHAT CAN OR SHOULD BE DONE TO GET OSTPOLITIK MOVING AGAIN.
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